

[002]        This application is a national stage completion of PCT/US2003/36385 filed November 13, 2003 which claims priority from United States Application Serial No. 10/294,246 filed November 14, 2002 and United States Application Serial No. 10/668,727 filed September 23, 2003.

1. (ORIGINAL) A fruit coring device comprising:
  - a handle; and
  - a cutting member having a leading cutting member edge, and the cutting member being affixed to the handle;
  - at least one cutting surface projecting inwardly from the cutting member adjacent the cutting member edge, the at least one cutting surface having a cutting surface edge which is located adjacent a plane defined by the cutting member edge to facilitate formation of a closed bottom bore within fruit during use of the device.
2. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one cutting surface defines a blade plane which is coincident with a longitudinal axis defined by the cutting member.
3. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one cutting surface defines a blade plane which is spaced from a longitudinal axis defined by the cutting member.
4. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one cutting surface comprises first and second blades which are accommodated within an interior region of the cutting member and the first and second blades both lie within a blade plane.
5. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 4, wherein the blade plane defined by the first and second blades is coincident with a longitudinal axis defined by the cutting member.
6. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 4, wherein the blade plane defined by the first and second blades is spaced from a longitudinal axis defined by the cutting member.
7. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one cutting surface comprises first and second blades which are accommodated within an interior region of the cutting member, the first blade lies within a first blade plane and

the second blade lies within a second blade plane, and the first blade plane extends substantially normal to the second blade plane.

8. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one cutting surface comprises first and second pairs of blades which are accommodated within an interior region of the cutting member, the first pair of blades lie within a first blade plane and the second pair of blades lie within a second blade plane, and the first blade plane extends substantially normal to the second blade plane.

9. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one cutting surface comprises first and second pairs of blades which are accommodated within an interior region of the cutting member, a first of the first pair of blades lies within a first blade plane and a second of the first pair of blades lies within a third blade plane and the first and third blade planes extend substantially parallel to one another, a first of the second pair of blades lies within a second blade plane and a second of the second pair of blades lies within a fourth blade plane and the second and fourth blade planes extend substantially parallel to one another.

10. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the cylindrical cutting member has a longitudinal indentation formed along a length thereof to facilitate passage of air therealong when removing a core from fruit.

11. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the cutting member has an elongate slot formed along a length thereof to facilitate passage of air therealong when removing a core from fruit.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fruit coring device according to claim 21, wherein the leading cutting member edge has at least one tapered surface formed therein; and

the cutting member edge and the cutting surface edge lie in a cutting plane.

13. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the cutting member is a tubular member with first and second ends, the first end of the cutting

member carries the cutting member edge and a second end of the cutting member is coupled to the handle.

14. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 1, wherein the cutting member is a tubular member and at least one leg affixes the tubular member with the handle.

15. CANCELED

16. (ORIGINAL) A fruit coring device comprising:

a handle; and

a tubular member having first and second ends and defining a longitudinal axis, the tubular member having an interior cavity, the first end of the tubular member being connected with the handle and the second end defining a member cutting edge; and

at least one blade having a blade cutting edge, the at least one blade being support within the interior cavity of the tubular member such that the blade cutting edge lies substantially in a plane defined by the member cutting edge.

17. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 16, wherein first and second blades are accommodated within the interior cavity of the circular tubular member and the first and second blades both lie within a blade plane.

18. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 16, wherein first and second pairs of blades are accommodated within the interior cavity of the tubular member, the first pair of blades lie within a first blade plane and the second pair of blades lie within a second blade plane, and the first blade plane extends substantially normal to the second blade plane.

19. (ORIGINAL) The fruit coring device according to claim 16, wherein first and second pairs of blades are accommodated within the interior cavity of the circular tubular member, one of the first pair of blades lies within a first blade plane and the other of the first pair of blades lies within a third blade plane and the first and third blade

planes extend substantially parallel to one another, one of the second pair of blades lies within a second blade plane and the other of the second pair of blades lies within a fourth blade plane and the second and fourth blade planes extend substantially parallel to one another.

20. CANCELED

21. (NEW) A fruit coring device comprising:

a handle;

a tubular member having first and second opposed ends and defining a longitudinal axis and the tubular member defining an interior region, the first end of the tubular member being directly connected with the handle, and the second end defining a member cutting edge;

the handle having first and second opposed extensions which extend away from the longitudinal axis of the tubular member to facilitate rotation of the fruit coring device;

a blade cutting edge comprising first and second inwardly directed blades which are accommodated within the interior cavity of the tubular member, the first and second inwardly directed blades both lie within a blade plane, and inner most ends of the first and second inwardly directed blades being spaced from one another;

the blade plane being substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the tubular member; and

the blade cutting edge lying substantially in a plane defined by the member cutting edge.

22. (NEW) The fruit coring device according to claim 21, wherein the tubular member and the first and second inwardly directed blades are formed from a single a piece of metal, and the first and second inwardly directed blades are bent inwardly toward the longitudinal axis.